

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-34 are pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the following remarks.

The Office Action requires restriction between what are asserted to be eleven (11) separate and distinct inventions defined in the Office Action as follows:

Group I – Claims 1-6, 13, 14 and 24 to an isolated nucleic acid, an expression vector, a host cell and a method of producing a polypeptide;

Group II – Claims 7-11 to an isolated polypeptide;

Group III – Claim 12 to an antibody;

Group IV – Claims 15 and 16 to a method for identifying a compound that modulates signal transduction;

Group V – Claims 17-20 to a method for treating cancer;

Group VI – Claims 21-23 (in part) to a method for detecting the presence of a BCA-GPCR nucleic acid;

Group VII – Claim 21-23 (in part) to a method for detecting the presence of a BCA-GPCR polypeptide;

Group VIII – Claims 25-25 to a method of diagnosing a cancer in a mammal by measuring BCA-GPCR gene copy number;

Group IX – Claims 28 and 29 to a method for monitoring the efficacy of a therapeutic treatment;

Group X – Claims 30-32 to a methods for diagnosing a cancer in a mammal by measuring the level of BCA-GPCR mRNA transcripts;

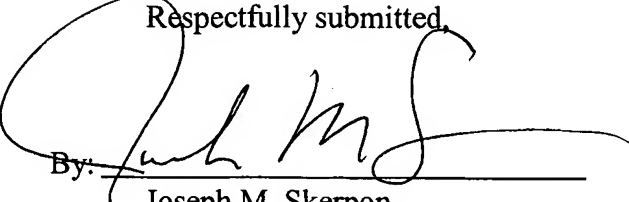
Group XI – Claims 33 and 34 to a method for monitoring the efficacy of a therapeutic treatment.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants elect the invention of **Group II**, Claims 7-11 to an isolated polypeptide.

While not clear that an election of species is required by the action, out of an abundance of caution, applicants elect the polypeptide of Seq. ID 18. All of the elected claims read on this polypeptide.

Consideration and formal allowance of the elected claims thus are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 10, 2006

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